

# HARVEST OF DEATH.

Those Who Have Been Summoned to the Other World.

## WILLIAM H. AARON.

Matthew G. Feather, Mrs. Rebecca McCrory, S. H. Feather, Daniel M. Price, Miss Lena Beechhofer.

William H. Aaron died at his home in Loyalsock on March 26. He was a son of Peter Aaron and was born on April 13, 1830, at Bedford. He moved to Stokes Spring township and subsequently returned to Bedford, where he learned the trade of miller. He then moved to Johnstown, where he worked in the Bessemer mills, which were located where the Cambria steel works now stand. He lived in Johnstown nine years, from there he moved to Ohio and was engaged in milling at Minerva, Stark county.

In 1853 he went to Oil City, Pa. There he conducted a feed store and speculated in oil, in which he was very successful. In one day he and his partner made \$50,000 in an oil land speculation. After living there two years he sold his claim and moved to Pottsville, where he purchased a valuable tract of land from Andrew Spanglo. He was engaged in farming and in conducting a general merchandise store. He sold the store in 1870 and about ten years ago Jacob S. Brown bought the mill. Through Mr. Aaron's efforts, the name of the little town was changed from Faxonville to Loyalsock. He lived in Loyalsock thirty-eight years. He was married to Catherine Moser on February 28, 1853, by Rev. William Gephart, of Bedford. They celebrated their 50th anniversary on the 28th of last February. He is survived by his wife, seven children and twenty-one grandchildren. The children are Mrs. Lee Wilkinson, of Altoona; Mrs. Tobias Campbell, of Martinsburg; Sherman Aaron and Harry Aaron, of Altoona; Mrs. Henry Brown, Mrs. Preston Ferry and Daniel Aaron, of Loyalsock. He was a brother of James Aaron, of Chambersville.

Funeral services were held in the Methodist church at Loyalsock, Rev. J. K. Lloyd, of Altoona, assisted by Rev. A. P. Wharton, of Martinsburg, and Rev. E. W. Stonebraker, of Loyalsock, conducted the services. The body was interred in the Loyalsock cemetery.

Mr. Aaron was an official member of the M. E. church and was always found at its services when his health permitted. He was one of the most prominent and progressive citizens of the county and his death will be keenly felt by his many friends.

Matthew G. Feather.

Matthew G. Feather died at his home in Salemville Friday evening, March 27, aged 75 years, 10 months and 18 days. The deceased was born near St. Clairsville and spent most of his life in the vicinity of Oostburg, where he was well known to everybody in that section of the county. Ten years ago he removed to Morrison's Cove, where he resided until his death. He is survived by his wife and the following children: George F., of Brummbach; Joseph L., of Salemville; David F., of Minnesota; Irvin L., of Texas; Watson, of Oostburg; Mrs. Dillie Dunphy, of Wilmore; Mrs. Mary Yarnell and Mrs. Minnie Beck, of Altoona; also 19 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. The deceased was a consistent member of the German Reformed church for 36 years. He was also a charter member of Oostburg Castle No. 307, Knights of the Golden Eagle, instituted over 24 years ago, and was buried with the honors of the order. The funeral services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. Stonebraker, of Loyalsock. Interment in the Reformed cemetery at Oostburg.

A large concourse of friends assembled to pay their last tribute of respect to the departed, who was always a friend to everybody. He was of a kind, genial, obliging disposition and respected and honored by all who knew him.

Mrs. Rebecca McCrory.

Friday morning "Grandmother" McCrory, as she was familiarly called, departed this life. She fell asleep so calmly and peacefully that those who were near her scarce knew when she died. It can be truly said of her that none knew her but to love and respect her. She will be sadly missed, not only in the house but in the surrounding community. Her maiden name was Rebecca Smith. She was among the last of a large family. Her husband preceded her to the world beyond about three years ago. She was aged 89 years, three months and 11 days. Her husband conducted the services at the house and the hymn she loved was sung at her funeral. "We'll Never Say Good-Bye in Heaven." Her remains were interred in the cemetery at Pleasantville by the side of her husband. She is survived by the following children: Nancy, at home; Robert, of Oostburg; Mrs. Mary Kimberlain, of Freedom, and quite a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

ALICE BARN, PA.

S. H. Feather.

S. H. Feather, of Friends Cove, passed away on Sunday. He was 79 years old. He was twice married. His first wife was Mary Anderson, of Ryot. To this union were born Mrs. Edwin Berkeheimer, of Bedford; Harvey, who died 3 years ago, and George, of Duquesne. Mrs. Feather died about 35 years ago. Some years after her death Mr. Feather married Julia Ann Strider, of Ryot. The following children blessed this union: Mrs. Belle Leasure, of Salford; O. M. William Ester, of Bedford, and Mrs. Murray Sater. The deceased was a member of the M. E. church and belonged to Rainsburg Lodge, I. O. O. F. Funeral services were held at Rainsburg on Tuesday.

Daniel M. Price.

# THURSDAY'S TRAGEDY.

Account of the Awful Accident at Hyndman Last Week.

## MURDERER AND SUICIDE.

Was William G. Cogan, a Farmer, Who Was Formerly Lived at Hyndman. His Victim Was His Wife.

The principals in the awful tragedy at Hyndman on Thursday last week were Mr. and Mrs. William G. Cogan, and not Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Ritchey, as it was generally believed here until five or six hours after the fatal shots were fired. The first report of the sad affair seemed to be so well founded that all the additional information we could obtain confirmed the previous account. As soon as we learned that the parties were not Mr. and Mrs. Ritchey we stopped our press and telegraphed to Hyndman to learn the truth. When word came that the murderer and his victim were William G. Cogan and his wife, who was the widow of Thomas Troutman, late of Bedford, deceased, our first impulse was to "kill" the article in *THE GAZETTE*, but then it occurred to us that it would be better to let it stand and add to it the telegram we received from Hyndman, so that it would show that a mistake had been made and correct the impression made by the accounts in the *Inquirer* and *The Gazette* which had already been printed.

The murder and suicide occurred in the office of the National House, Hyndman, which is conducted by Mrs. Dominick Link, of Ellerslie. Cogan and his wife arrived at Hyndman in the morning and after visiting one or two of the hotels there in a fruitless effort to get lodging, they finally went to the National, where they got their dinner. After paying for the meal Cogan, accompanied by the woman, went to the Pennsylvania depot and, about 3:15 o'clock, Agent H. E. Hootman for a ticket to Bedford, but subsequently had it changed to Saxton. His telephone was checked to the same place. While in the ticket office Cogan and his companion kept up a quarrel which began several hours before, the former being under the influence of liquor. After the ticket had been purchased the woman went to the National House and Cogan went up street. He asked a citizen where the nearest hardware store was, and upon receiving the information, entered W. J. Sheavly's store and asked for a revolver, stating that he was in a hurry, as he wanted to go to Saxton on the train. From the weapons which Mr. Sheavly showed him he selected a six-shot, 32-caliber Harrington and Richardson revolver, which the merchant loaded for him. After paying \$5 for the pistol, Cogan placed it in his pocket and went to the National House, where his wife was waiting.

About half past two o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Cogan, still quarrelling, left for the station. When the train approached they kissed each other several times and when the cars came to a standstill they walked to the steps of the smoking car, where the woman again kissed Cogan. The latter went into the car and Mrs. Cogan returned to the hotel.

After the train started Cogan got off the car and went back to the National House. Entering the office of the hotel unobserved, he walked up to where his wife was sitting on a chair and said, "You didn't get rid of me as quick as you thought you would." She replied, "I was scared, or he was, or he was." "You know what you did," she continued. He replied, "You are my wife, ain't you?" Mrs. Cogan made no reply, but when he asked her to give him good-bye she did so. Cogan then searched the pockets of his coat and trousers and finally found his revolver. He said, "You are my wife and I can prove it." He then placed the pistol against her forehead and pulled the trigger. The ball pierced the woman's brain, killing her instantly. After killing his wife the murderer placed the revolver against his right temple and fired. He died about 12 minutes later.

Justice of the Peace F. J. Carpenter selected the following citizens as a jury to view the bodies and ascertain the cause of their deaths: S. J. Noel, S. Raley, C. E. Smith, C. E. Rhodes, J. Sides and C. W. Weyant. The jury examined several witnesses and then opened a trunk belonging to the deceased woman. In it they found some wearing apparel, a pair of bedclothes, photographs, letters, a hatchet, etc. In the box was an old marriage certificate issued at Bedford in 1836 and containing the names of Ida B. Carr and Thomas H. Troutman. A plate, "At Rest," which had probably been removed from a coffin, was also in the trunk. A satchel owned by Cogan contained mine's and other clothing and a card bearing the following: "Receipt and deed United Mine Workers of America, William J. Cogan, in account with Local Union No. 1272, located at Saxton, Pa., admitted May 27, 1903, financial secretary, C. B. Moore, Saxton, Bedford county, Pa." The verdict of the coroner's jury was as follows:

We find that on the 26th day of March, 1903, Mrs. Ida B. Cogan was instantly killed by a 32-caliber bullet fired into her head from a revolver in the hands of William G. Cogan, her husband, who was originally with evil intent, at 2:30 o'clock p. m., in the office of the National Hotel, at Hyndman, Pa., and that at the same time and place said William G. Cogan did willfully take his own life by a revolver shot, inflicted, the bullet entering his head through the right temple.

WILLIAM J. COGAN.

William J. Cogan was a son of J. O. F. and Maria Cogan and a brother of Sheriff H. W. Cogan. He was born in Hopewell township on May 10, 1838. For some time he was engaged as a farmhand at Saxton. He resided in West Virginia until last fall. Mr. Cogan was married three times. His first wife was Miss Leah Ward, of Southampton township; his second, Mrs. Ida Troutman, of Bedford, and his third, Mrs. Barbara Coy, of Saxton. Four children by his first wife, his third wife, his parents, five brothers and three sisters survive him. The body was taken to the cemetery at Saxton's church at Yellow Creek on Saturday. Rev. Samuel Ritchey, of the Brethren church, conducted the services.

Mrs. William J. Cogan.

Mrs. William J. Cogan was a daughter of William Carr and was born in King township about 43 years ago. She married Thomas Troutman, a painter, of Bedford, and resided here for some time. Mr. Troutman died about ten years ago. Three children were born to them, two of whom are still living—a daughter, who resides in Bedford, and a son, in New York. In 1896 Mrs. Troutman was united in marriage to William J. Cogan. About five years ago they separated. Last September they reunited and went to West Virginia. Some time before this Cogan married Mrs. Coy, although, it is said, he was not divorced from his second wife. The body was brought to Bedford on Saturday and taken in charge by a brother of the deceased, Jacob Carr, of Claysburg, who is an undertaker. Interment was made at Imber Valley on Sunday. Mrs. Troutman is survived by the following brothers and sisters: Jacob, of Claysburg; Calvin, of King; William and Isaiah, of an under-Valley on Sunday. Mrs. Troutman is survived by the following brothers and sisters: Jacob, of Claysburg; Calvin, of King; William and Isaiah, of an under-Valley on Sunday. Mrs. Troutman is survived by the following brothers and sisters: Jacob, of Claysburg; Calvin, of King; William and Isaiah, of an under-Valley on Sunday.

A Mysterious Escape.

Our fellow-townsmen, J. O. Roberts, has kindly furnished us with the following account of an accident which happened at Rosing Spring last week: On March 26 S. U. Troutman, Charles Herschberger and D. W. Moore, started from their homes near Mesta's church in Bedford township to go to Rosing Spring with two wagon loads of household goods belonging to Mr. Cogan, who moved to Saxton on March 23. All went well until they reached the place of their destination. Approaching the railroad from the south side they found a freight train shifting and the crossing blocked. They stopped at Louis's store until the crossing was cleared by the train moving along the crossing, stopping with just enough room to clear the crossing. Then Herschberger and Moore, being in front, proceeded to cross, but stopped to see if the freight had come to a standstill, or if another was approaching; and being satisfied that there was no danger from the freight and not hearing the approach of the passenger train from Martinsburg, crossed in safety. Troutman, who was close behind them in a covered wagon, driving three horses, took it for granted that all was safe and followed. While he was nearing the track the Martinsburg train came swiftly down upon him from the opposite side. The front horse had crossed the track and the two nearest the engine of the passenger train struck there, cutting the front horse off without any apparent injury, badly injuring the one nearest the engine and killing the one on the opposite side from the approaching train; and in some mysterious way caught the end of the wagon tongue and hauled it alongside of the engine thirty or forty yards, or until the train was brought to a stop, doing scarcely any damage to the wagon and not hurting Troutman, who, as driver, in the last instant, saw where the misfortune was about to occur. He saw the step more of the horse, or while the clock ticks, and the front part of the wagon would have been on the track, and no one knows what the result would have been.

Blue Rock Target Shoot.

The Saxton Gun club, which was organized about a year ago and now has a membership of about forty, held an all-day target shoot on their grounds at Saxton on March 25. The participants report the shooting as being unusually difficult from the fact that the day was cold and a strong wind was blowing across the trap and affected the flight of the targets, which were thrown hard, and from the fact that the pulling apparatus of the trap did not throw out the targets promptly. Seventeen shooters participated. The regular programme consisted of 150 targets and was divided into nine different events. Of those who shot through the programme S. R. Longenecker, of Bedford, was first, with 118 breaks; J. M. Powell, of Conditale, second, with 117, and J. A. Holderbaum, of Cessna, third, with 112. Charles McMillan, of Bedford, who did not shoot through the entire programme, was high as to the number of targets which he shot, getting 100. Several other events were shot after the regular programme.

Corrie-Wisler.

O. Curtis Corrie, of Johnstown, and Ida Wisler, of Fishertown, were united in holy wedlock Wednesday afternoon of last week at the Reformed parsonage, near Cessna, by Rev. B. F. Bauman. The groom has a position at Johnstown and is a native of Lincoln township, this county; being the son of Thomas Corrie, who was engaged in the coal business at Fishertown. The bride is the daughter of George Wisler, a highly respected citizen of Fishertown. They expect to live at Johnstown, where they will soon go to housekeeping.

Tew-Wilson.

On March 25 Harvey Tew and Alice Ida Wilson, of Bedford township, were united in marriage by Justice of the Peace J. R. Ritchey.

Reese-Yonson.

On March 31 at Trinity Lutheran church, Bedford, Wm. L. Reese, of Bedford, and Ella M. Yonson, of Bedford, were united by Rev. M. L. Callier.

Leitz-Hann.

On March 31 at Trinity Lutheran church, Bedford, Wm. L. Reese, of Bedford, and Ella M. Yonson, of Bedford, were united by Rev. M. L. Callier.

# CAPITAL CITY CHAT.

Letter From Our Harrisburg Correspondent.

## BILLS INTRODUCED.

Priority of Mortgages—The Taxing of Dogs—License Tax on Carriages and Other Vehicles.

Special Correspondence of *THE GAZETTE*. HARRISBURG, April 1.—All mortgages or defeasible deeds in the nature of mortgages made or to be made or executed for any lands, tenements or hereditaments within this commonwealth shall have priority according to the date of recording the same without regard to the time of making or executing the same, and it shall be the duty of the recorder to record the time upon the mortgage or defeasible deed when left for record and to number the same according to the time when they are left for record, and if two or more are left upon the same day they shall have priority according to the time they are left at the office for record, and no mortgage or defeasible deed in the nature of a mortgage shall be a lien until such mortgage or defeasible deed shall have been recorded or left for record. This act shall be in force from and after the date of its passage.

An act regulating the taxing of dogs reads as follows: That the township assessors shall be required at the time of assessing the property of each property-holder of his township as now required by law to make diligent inquiry as to the number of dogs owned, harbored or kept by the person so assessed, and such as assessed shall pay immediately to the township the sum of one dollar for each male dog or spayed female dog and the sum of two dollars for each additional male dog or spayed female dog and the sum of three dollars for each female dog so owned, harbored or kept. And any person who shall keep or harbor any dog and shall not have paid the township assessor the tax as above specified, shall, upon the complaint of any resident of the county, be subject to a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty dollars. If any dog shall be found roaming over the county unattended by its master or owner or his owner's agent it shall be lawful for any person to kill such dog.

The town council of each borough now incorporated, or that may hereafter be incorporated, shall have the power to enact ordinances establishing reasonable rates of license on all hacks, carriages, omnibuses and other vehicles used in carrying persons or property for pay, and limit the amount of said license to the amount of the license of each borough now incorporated, or that may hereafter be incorporated, shall have the power to enact ordinances establishing reasonable rates of license on all hacks, carriages, omnibuses and other vehicles used in carrying persons or property for pay, and limit the amount of said license to the amount of the license of each borough now incorporated, or that may hereafter be incorporated, shall have the power to enact ordinances establishing reasonable rates of license on all hacks, carriages, omnibuses and other vehicles used in carrying persons or property for pay, and limit the amount of said license to the amount of the license of each borough now 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